



**National Business Center**

Government Shared Service Provider

# News Release

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## California Highway Patrol Expands Helicopter Hoist Capability in Yosemite National Park

### ***Interior's National Business Center Aviation Management Division Announces Agreement***

WASHINGTON – Interior's National Business Center (NBC) is pleased to announce an agreement between the National Park Service Pacific West Region and the California Highway Patrol (CHP) for helicopter hoist support within Yosemite National Park. This cooperative agreement and the implementation of the support were facilitated by the Aviation Management Directorate (AMD) of the NBC.

The agreement allows for the use of CHP helicopters to provide hoist support to retrieve critically injured persons within the Park. Hoist support includes the insertion and extraction of rescue personnel, in terrain not accessible by foot and where it is not feasible for aircraft to land. This service supplements an existing service where CHP provides joint law enforcement aviation support to DOI.

The AMD assisted in the collaborative effort by brokering the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that supports the Pacific West Region of the National Park Service and the California Highway Patrol. AMD also provided management assistance in the certification training of Park personnel.

Although this MOU implements cooperative hoist service only within Yosemite National Park, it also paves the way for similar hoist services by CHP in other national parks within the



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State of California. Another by-product of this activity is the collection of information and experience that will aid in the development of Interior's department-wide standards for hoist operations.

AMD which was formally known as DOI's Office of Aviation Services, prior to its merger with the National Business Center in 2001, provides aviation policy for aviation safety management and aircraft accident prevention oversight to the Bureaus in the direct support of all DOI aviation activities.